

STUDENT TEST BOOKLET

6-8 Week Skills Assessments Developed for
Districts Using *Houghton Mifflin Reading*



GRADE 4 Theme 5

Student Name _____

DIRECTIONS: Read the story carefully. Then read each question and fill in the bubble next to the correct answer.

Ether Day

William W. Hull

Cancha, a young Inca girl, was lying on a stone table in the middle of a large chamber inside the great sun temple. A priest named Curiaco was leaning over Cancha. He was operating on her head. Her screams echoed throughout the huge stone room and into the settlement outside. Cancha's brother was standing in the shadows of the room. He was praying to stop his sister's pain.

The priest was trying to repair a bone in Cancha's head that had been broken in a fall. Long ago, priests were considered doctors. They often performed operations such as this one. But they had no drugs to put people to sleep or to prevent pain. Such operations had to be done with the patient fully awake.

For almost 10,000 years, similar operations were performed throughout the world. Most patients like Cancha died. This happened because they couldn't stand the pain. In fact, for centuries doctors knew how to repair the human body. However, they couldn't prevent the pain caused by operations. It was this pain more than the injury itself that often proved fatal.

The doctors had tried many different methods of putting their patients safely to sleep. They knew that if the patients could sleep, they wouldn't feel any pain. In ancient times, a Roman naturalist described how the root of the mandrake plant could be used to deaden pain. During the Middle Ages, doctors invented the "sleep sponge." A sponge was boiled all day in water with seeds and roots. When the "sleep sponge" was held under a patient's nose, the patient fell asleep. It was not always successful. Nothing was very successful.

Finally, in the 1830's, a great breakthrough occurred in the United States. A tall, young man named Samuel Colt was giving traveling shows from the back of a covered wagon. He was trying to make money to perfect a pistol he was inventing (the famous Colt pistol). During his show, he would ask volunteers to breathe a gas called nitrous oxide. When they did this, they would break into loud laughter. Sometimes they would dance and sing.

Now answer the questions about this part of the selection.

1. Long ago, doctors performed operations on people when they were awake because
 - A. they were cruel.
 - B. they thought it was safer to keep them awake.
 - C. they thought it was unnecessary.
 - D. they had no drugs to put people to sleep.

2. During operations of long ago, most patients died because
 - A. the operation was too painful.
 - B. the doctors were unschooled.
 - C. their wounds became infected.
 - D. the doctors couldn't stop the bleeding.

One time Mr. Colt was putting on a show. At this show, he had some volunteers breathe the gas. However, he had given them too much. Instead of dancing and singing, they fell asleep. Mr. Colt thought his show was a failure. He stopped using the gas. He didn't realize he had discovered a safe way to put people to sleep for operations.

A few years later, Dr. C.W. Long from Georgia did realize how important this gas was. He heard some medical students talking about Colt's gas, which was often called "laughing gas." The students told Dr. Long how to make the gas. But he didn't have the right equipment to manufacture it.

Then he remembered that one of his medicines also made people laugh sometimes when they smelled it. He tried this medicine on some volunteers. He soon discovered that if he let people inhale just the right amount of this drug, called sulfuric ether, they would fall asleep. When he tried it on himself, he awoke after a long sleep. His arms and legs were covered with bruises. He realized that he had banged into things when he was moving about in his sleepy state. Yet, he had felt no pain!

In early March of 1842, Dr. Long had a patient inhale ether long enough to fall asleep. The doctor then cut a large growth from the patient's body. When the patient awoke, he was charged two dollars and sent on his way. He had felt no pain at all.

Dr. Long knew then that he had made an important discovery. He had found something that might be used to stop the horrible pain of operations. Ether might give doctors enough time to operate properly. Yet, Dr. Long did not want to report his discovery. He needed to try it out on more patients. He wanted to control how long his patients slept. He had to learn how to administer just the right amount of ether.

Although Dr. Long was probably the first doctor to use ether this way, he was never given full credit for its discovery. Instead, ether came into general use because of the work of a dentist, Dr. William T.G. Morton. Morton had learned to use laughing gas on his patients to kill pain. He was also studying medicine. He had learned that ether was much like laughing gas in its effect on people. And ether was more reliable.

Now answer the questions about this part of the selection.

3. What part did Samuel Colt play in the discovery of a safe way to put people to sleep?

- A. He discovered the “sleep sponge.”
- B. He discovered that nitrous oxide puts people to sleep.
- C. He discovered ether.
- D. He discovered that ether puts people into a deep sleep.

4. How did Dr. Long find out about laughing gas?

- A. He read about it in a newspaper.
- B. Samuel Colt told him about it.
- C. Dr. Morton told him about it.
- D. He heard medical students talking about it.

5. Why was ether better than nitrous oxide for putting patients to sleep?

- A. It didn't matter how much of it you gave the patients.
- B. It was cheaper.
- C. It was more reliable.
- D. It was easy to get.

6. Who was the first person to use ether during an operation?

- A. Dr. Morton
- B. Dr. Long
- C. Mr. Colt
- D. a student of Dr. Long

Morton convinced Dr. J. C. Warren that ether could be used to prevent pain during surgery. They arranged for a special demonstration of the use of ether. It took place in October of 1846, at a hospital in Boston. Many people, including a few reporters, doctors, and medical students, came to see this special operation performed by Dr. Warren. This event played a very important part in the history of medicine.

Before the operation, the patient inhaled some ether. Then the patient fell into a deep sleep. Dr. Warren performed the surgery quickly and successfully. As the still-unconscious patient was wheeled from the operating room, the doctor knew that something had finally been found that could prevent the awful pain of operations. That day was declared “Ether Day.” It is still remembered today.

Just a month after this event, Dr. Morton received a letter from Oliver Wendell Holmes, a doctor and novelist. Dr. Holmes praised him on his wonderful discovery. He suggested a name for the discovery: *anesthesia*. This word comes from two Greek words meaning “without sensation.”

Now answer the questions about this part of the selection.

7. This selection is called “Ether Day” in recognition of the day when
- A. the word *anesthesia* was suggested.
 - B. Dr. Long discovered that ether works.
 - C. Dr. Warren was told about ether.
 - D. Dr. Warren demonstrated a pain-free operation.
8. What is the story **mainly** about?
- A. how ancient doctors repaired broken bones
 - B. how dentists used laughing gas to kill pain
 - C. how doctors discovered anesthesia
 - D. how, long ago, most patients died from the pain of surgery
9. The word *anesthesia* comes from two Greek words meaning
- A. without sensation.
 - B. sleep inducing.
 - C. painless surgery.
 - D. laughing gas.
10. Another good title for this selection is
- A. “Dr. Warren Discovers Nitrous Oxide.”
 - B. “Cruel Operations.”
 - C. “Operations Are Unsafe.”
 - D. “An Important Medical Breakthrough.”

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| TOTAL SCORE: _____/10 |
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Read each sentence. Choose a subject pronoun to replace the underlined words. Write the pronoun on the line below the sentence.

1. Jamal and I learned about Dr. King and the civil rights movement.

2. Fourth graders were planning a birthday celebration for Dr. King.

3. My grandfather taught me the importance of Dr. King's work.

Read each sentence. Choose an object pronoun to replace the underlined words. Write the pronoun on the line below the sentence.

4. Living in the United States was difficult for many Cubans.

5. Gloria promised her mother and me that she would finish college.

6. Emilio changed the band's name after Gloria became the lead singer.

Read each sentence. Choose a possessive pronoun to replace the underlined possessive noun. Write the possessive pronoun on the line below the sentence.

7. Lou Gehrig's nickname was Iron Horse because he never missed a game.

8. The Yankees' manager said to Lou, "The decision to play is yours."

9. The American League's most valuable player in 1936 was Lou Gehrig.

10. Mother's dream for her children was that they would attend college.

TOTAL SCORE: _____/10

DIRECTIONS: Read all of the sentences. If an underlined word is misspelled, fill in the bubble next to the sentence. If none of the underlined words are misspelled, fill in the bubble next to “No mistake.”

1. A. Your backpack is always much heavier than mine.
 - B. The elephants were the largest animals at the zoo, but the monkeys were the funniest.
 - C. That is the tinyest hummingbird I've ever seen.
 - D. No mistake
2. A. I'm so pleased you were able to attend the family reunion.
 - B. Farmers depended on the weatherman for accurate, up-to-date information.
 - C. The general worryed about his exhausted troops.
 - D. No mistake
3. A. Did you make the dinner reservation for seven o'clock?
 - B. San Francisco is my favorite sity to visit during summer vacation.
 - C. Let's sit on the porch and enjoy this peaceful summer evening.
 - D. No mistake
4. A. The luky golfer hit a hole-in-one on the first green.
 - B. It was unkind of you to ignore my feelings.
 - C. A terrible sickness was being spread by mosquitoes.
 - D. No mistake
5. A. When it was time to give my speech, I began to feel uneasy and nervous.
 - B. This was the third windles day we've had this week.
 - C. The bride and groom were filled with happiness after the wedding.
 - D. No mistake

6. A. The reporter was careful to record the senator's exact words.
- B. The photographs she took in Europe are beautiful.
- C. Our trip was uneventfull; nothing exciting happened.
- D. No mistake
7. A. Photographs preserve cherished momments in people's lives.
- B. She wasn't allowed to go to school because of her high fever.
- C. The reason her baby was crying was because he was hungry.
- D. No mistake
8. A. My friend brought chocolate chip cookies to the party.
- B. She didn't have enough peanut butter for her sandwich.
- C. Some day I would like to fly around the world.
- D. No mistake
9. A. The weather is perfect, and there's not a cloud in the sky.
- B. Last night the electrical pouer went out at our house.
- C. Mother chuckled when she saw the funny clown.
- D. No mistake
10. A. The patient bus driver never yells at the noisie students.
- B. Empty the trash before you go outside to play.
- C. A biologist is a scientist that studies plants and animals.
- D. No mistake

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| TOTAL SCORE: _____/10 |
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PART 1 — Antonyms

DIRECTIONS: Read the sentence. Choose the word that means the **opposite** of the underlined word. Then fill in the bubble next to the word you have chosen.

1. Migrant farm laborers united to protest poor working conditions.
 - A. approve
 - B. boycott
 - C. specialize
 - D. prevent

2. Winners of the poetry contest modestly accepted their awards.
 - A. tirelessly
 - B. eventually
 - C. wisely
 - D. arrogantly

3. Grateful citizens honored the firefighters with a parade and medals for bravery.
 - A. demonstrated
 - B. shamed
 - C. rehearsed
 - D. dignified

PART 2 — Multiple Meanings

DIRECTIONS: Read the sentence. Read and answer the question. Fill in the bubble next to the answer you have chosen.

4. The softball player was ready to field any ball that came her way.

In which sentence is the word field used **in the same way** as in the sentence above?

 - A. They asked the speaker if he would field questions from the audience.
 - B. Wearing a hat can obstruct your field of vision.
 - C. The pitcher couldn't field the ball that bounced over his head.
 - D. Livestock quietly grazed in the grassy field.

5. If you market this toy correctly, the public will want to buy it.

In which sentence is the word market used **in the same way** as in the sentence above?

 - A. Mother went to the market to purchase fresh fish.
 - B. Inventors planned to market their new device on television and in newspapers.
 - C. Every Saturday we buy fresh vegetables at the farmers' market.
 - D. A drop in the stock market caused investors to worry.

PART 3 — Context Meaning

DIRECTIONS: Read the sentence. Using context, choose the word that means the **same**, or **about the same**, as the underlined word. Then fill in the bubble next to the word you have chosen.

6. On one side of the shopping mall was an array of six specialty stores.
- A. tragedy
- B. worldwide
- C. career
- D. group
7. When news of the successful rescue spread, joy and relief were visible on the faces of family members.
- A. apparent
- B. civil
- C. passionate
- D. crumpled

PART 4 — Synonyms

DIRECTIONS: Read the sentence. Choose the word that means the **same**, or **about the same**, as the underlined word. Then fill in the bubble next to the word you have chosen.

8. Watching colorful, hot-air balloons in the morning sky was stupendous.
- A. right
- B. sportsmanship
- C. amazing
- D. oppressing
9. Mexico and the United States have signed a foreign-trade contract.
- A. fare
- B. agreement
- C. salary
- D. error
10. The swimming championships will be held on three consecutive days.
- A. calculated
- B. assembly
- C. nervous
- D. uninterrupted

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| TOTAL SCORE: _____/10 |
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Passage #1

Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.”

Say these specific directions to the student:

When I say “Begin,” start reading aloud at the top of this page. Read across the page (DEMONSTRATE BY POINTING). Try to read each word. If you come to a word you don’t know, I will say the word for you. Read as quickly and accurately as you can, but do not read SO fast that you make mistakes. Do your best reading.

During the early 1900s, an awful sickness struck 8
 many children. It made victims’ muscles become 15
 lifeless. This disease was called polio. Doctors didn’t 23
 know what caused the dreadful illness. Some people 31
 believed the hot, humid days of August were the 40
 reason. Another theory was that swimming in cold 48
 rivers and lakes brought on the disease. Others 56
 thought peach fuzz was the culprit. So mothers wore 65
 rubber gloves to hold the peaches while peeling them. 74
 Because the disease was widespread, people were 81
 looking for a quick way to ease the suffering. 90

A nurse in Australia developed a way to help 99
 ailing children. She rubbed the patients’ paralyzed 106
 muscles. She claimed it helped improve mobility. 113
 Some doctors didn’t approve of her method. The most 122
 serious cases were taken to the hospital. Children 130
 were placed in iron lungs. These machines were 138
 tightly sealed metal tubes. They helped children 145
 breathe. They forced patients’ lungs to inhale and 153
 exhale air. Neither of these treatments was a cure. 162

The search for a cure was a priority. In 1954, 172
 Doctor Jonas Salk took a scientific approach. First, 180
 he found out polio was a virus. Then he developed 190
 the first vaccine to combat the illness. School children 199
 took part in a blind study. Some were given a shot of 211
 sugar water. Others were given the actual vaccine. 219
 Dr. Salk wanted to see if his cure would work. It did. 231
 To his credit, millions of children have been spared 240
 unnecessary anguish and pain. 244

EVALUATING CODES FOR ORAL READING

sky (/) word read incorrectly
 blue sky (^) inserted word
 (□) after the last word read

Comments:

FLUENCY SCORE

Number of Words
 Read Per Minute: _____

Number of Errors: — _____

Number of Words
 Read Correctly: _____

Passing Criterion
 (50th %ile) = 120

Errors include: 1) words read incorrectly; 2) words left out or inserted; 3) mispronounced words; 4) dropped endings or sounds; and 5) reversals. Self-corrections and word repetitions are NOT marked as errors.

Passage #2

Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.”

Say these specific directions to the student:

When I say “Begin,” start reading aloud at the top of this page. Read across the page (DEMONSTRATE BY POINTING). Try to read each word. If you come to a word you don’t know, I will say the word for you. Read as quickly and accurately as you can, but do not read SO fast that you make mistakes. Do your best reading.

Long ago, pioneers didn’t live close to a doctor. 9
 People were treated with homemade cures when 16
 they were sick. These household mixtures were 23
 made from herbs, salt, and ointments. The remedies 31
 were used for a variety of diseases. To treat a cold, 42
 raw onions were wrapped in a towel and placed on 52
 the ailing person’s chest. A piece of bread soaked 61
 in milk and placed on a wound was said to heal 72
 an infection. Sterilized cotton rags were used for 80
 bandages. A black, silk ribbon loosely tied around 88
 the neck was thought to stop a terrible hacking 97
 cough. 98

Many children became ill with chicken pox, 105
 measles, and mumps. These childhood diseases 111
 were common. They often went untreated. When 118
 children were ill, they were kept in darkened rooms. 127
 The family tried to take good care of them, but 137
 they had to get well on their own. If an illness was 149
 contagious, a quarantine sign would be placed on 157
 their front door. They had to wait until everyone in 167
 the home was no longer sick. All contaminated 175
 materials were burned to prevent an epidemic. 182

As doctors moved westward, medicine was easier 189
 to get. However, doctors had to make house calls to 199
 reach people in rural areas. They often had to ride 209
 several miles to reach the home of a sick patient. 219

| EVALUATING CODES FOR ORAL READING | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| sky (/) | word read incorrectly |
| blue sky (^) | inserted word |
| (□) | after the last word read |

Comments:

| FLUENCY SCORE | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Number of Words | |
| Read Per Minute: | _____ |
| Number of Errors: | — _____ |
| Number of Words | |
| Read Correctly: | _____ |
| Passing Criterion (50th %ile) | = <u>120</u> |

Errors include: 1) words read incorrectly; 2) words left out or inserted; 3) mispronounced words; 4) dropped endings or sounds; and 5) reversals. Self-corrections and word repetitions are NOT marked as errors.

Expository Writing Prompt - Response to Literature

Writing Situation: You have read Happy Birthday, Dr. King! You are thinking about how Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s message of peace affected Jamal’s life.

Purpose: To respond to literature in a personal essay

Audience: Your family

Writing Directions: Think about Dr. King’s message of solving problems peacefully. Write a response to literature essay explaining what Jamal learned in the story and how he applied it to his own life. Use a graphic organizer to plan your response. Refer to your anthology to write this essay.

Student Checklist:

| Revising |
|--|
| <p>___ Do you have an effective beginning that pulls the reader into your essay?</p> <p>___ Does each paragraph have a main idea supported by facts and reasons?</p> <p>___ Do paragraphs connect in a logical order of importance?</p> <p>___ Does your essay reflect your understanding of the story?</p> <p>___ Does your essay have a strong conclusion?</p> |
| Proofreading |
| <p>___ Did you write in well-organized paragraphs?</p> <p>___ Did you use a variety of sentence structures with proper subject-verb agreement?</p> <p>___ Did you use correct grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling?</p> |

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Conventions Score: _____/4 | TOTAL RUBRIC SCORE: _____/4 |
| Genre Score: _____/4 | |
| Writing Traits Score: _____/4 | |

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Sixth Edition

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